

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph beginning on line 26 of page 6 with the following amended paragraph:

**Figure 13A.** Influence of the amount of CPL<sub>4</sub> incorporated into SPLP on the uptake of SPLP-CPL<sub>4</sub> into BHK cells. Uptake of SPLP containing 0 (●), 2 (■), 3 (▬), or 4 (◆) mol% CPL<sub>4</sub> was investigated; the uptake of DOPE:DODAC lipoplexes (⚭) is given for comparison. The insertion of CPL<sub>4</sub> into SPLP and the preparation of lipoplexes was performed as described in Materials and Methods, Example II. The SPLP-CPL<sub>4</sub> media contained 40 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub> to prevent aggregation, addition to the BHK cells resulted in dilution of the CaCl<sub>2</sub> concentration to 8 mM. The uptake protocol involved incubation of SPLP-CPL<sub>4</sub> (20 μM total lipid) with 10<sup>5</sup> BHK cells in DMEM containing 10% FBS. Following incubation, the cells were lysed and uptake of rhodamine-PE was measured as described in Materials and Methods, Example II. **Figure 13B.** Fluorescence micrographs of BHK cells following uptake of SPLP (Panel I) and SPLP containing 4 mol% CPL<sub>4</sub> (Panel II) following a 4 h incubation. The micrographs on the left were taken in the phase contrast mode and those on the right in the (rhodamine) fluorescence mode.

Please replace paragraph beginning on line 4 of page 8 with the following amended paragraph:

**Figure 18A.** The transfection potency of SPLP-CPL<sub>4</sub> (●) containing 4 mol% CPL<sub>4</sub> and Lipofectin lipoplexes (◆) following extended transfection times with BHK cells. SPLP-CPL<sub>4</sub> and lipoplexes were generated as indicated for Figure 10. BHK cells were transfected in DMEM containing 10% FBS for 24 and 48 h with SPLP-CPL<sub>4</sub> and Lipofectin lipoplexes (charge ratio of 1.5:1) containing 5.0 μg/mL pCMVLuc. Following transfection the luciferase expression levels and cell protein levels were determined in the cell lysate. The luciferase activity was normalized for protein content in the lysate and plotted as a function of

transfection time. **Figure 18B.** The toxicity of SPLP-CPL<sub>4</sub> (●) containing 4 mol% CPL<sub>4</sub> and Lipofectin lipoplexes (◆) as a function of transfection time, as assayed by cell survival based on the protein concentration in the cell lysate.

Please replace paragraph beginning on line 29 of page 8 with the following amended paragraph:

**Figure 21.** A synthetic scheme for the preparation of cationic-PEG-lipid conjugates having varying amount of charged head groups (**Figure 21Aa.**) Et<sub>3</sub>N/CHCl<sub>3</sub>; (**Figure 21Bb.**) TFA /CHCl<sub>3</sub>; c. Et<sub>3</sub>N / CHCl<sub>3</sub> N $\alpha$ , N $\epsilon$ -di-t-Boc-L-Lysine N-hydroxysuccinide ester.